

# Gainesville Daily Sun

VOL. XXIII, NO. 36

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1906

TEN CENTS A WEEK

## MOB STORMS JAIL AND LYNCHES NEGRO

**Federal Court Had Protected  
Chattanooga Ravisher.**

**THE PEOPLE ANGERED AT COURT**

**As Soon as It Was Learned that the  
United States Supreme Court Had  
Respited Negro, Mob Was Formed  
For Purpose of Storming Jail.**

Chattanooga, Tenn., March 21.—Ed Johnson, a negro, was taken from jail at 10:15 o'clock Monday night by a mob of seventy-five men and hanged to a beam of the county bridge over the Tennessee river.

The rope broke and the negro's body fell, and the mob quickly riddled him with bullets. Sheriff Shipp and the jailer were locked in a bathroom while the mob secured the prisoner.

There was no disorder.

The negro was to have been hanged Tuesday, but the United States supreme court granted a stay of execution, and this action served to anger the citizens of the city, and all day there was great excitement and it was freely talked on the street that violence would result.

Early in the evening the mob began to form, and it was all done so quietly that only those in the immediate vicinity of the jail knew when they were ready for action.

At 10:45 seventy-five of the better class of citizens assembled at the jail, and at once gained admission. Overpowering the sheriff and his deputies, they secured the prisoner and quietly led him to the bridge, where the hanging was carried out in the most orderly manner, the mob immediately dispersing. There was not the slightest attempt at rowdiness, and the mob was composed of men of mature years.

The negro is said to have confessed when first taken by the mob, but when the rope was placed around his neck he stoutly maintained his innocence.

It is declared that the victim was dead of strangulation before the rope broke, but the mob, to make sure work of him, filled his body with bullets.

The city was as quiet at the hour of hanging and afterwards as though nothing unusual had occurred.

The crime for which Ed Johnson was lynched was an assault on a prominent white girl at St. Elmo, a suburb, which occurred some weeks ago. Immediately after the crime a mob made an unsuccessful attempt to get the prisoner, but Sheriff Shipp had taken him away. At that time the jail was attacked and almost torn down, and during the excitement several persons were seriously injured.

### Negroes Quit Work.

Chattanooga, Tenn., March 21.—The negroes employed in several large factories have quit work, presumably on account of the lynching of Ed Johnson by a mob last night. The police force and sheriff's officials are in conference looking towards measures for the prevention of a possible riot. Johnson was a prisoner under federal control, and yesterday notification to that effect having been given, and the members of the mob are amenable to indictment by a United States grand jury and trial in a national circuit court.

### Snow Visits Birmingham.

Birmingham, Ala., March 21.—The first snow of the season fell here early Tuesday morning. It was very light and of short duration. The weather is quite cold, and grave apprehensions are felt for the safety of the fruit crop in this section. All the streams in north Alabama are high because of recent heavy rains, and trains are still delayed on many railroads due to washouts and wet tracks. However the continual wind last night did much to dry the ground.

### Snow Falls at Dalton, Ga.

Dalton, Ga., March 21.—It is snowing here, with the thermometer registering 29. The million peach trees are in full bloom in this county, and are as yet uninjured. Tonight will tell.

## WILL IMPROVE CHATTAHOOCHEE

**Congressmen Are Enthusiastic Over  
Prospects of Columbus.**

Columbus, Ga., March 21.—The general impression is that substantial results in the way of larger appropriations for the Chattahoochee and allied streams, and the harbor at the mouth, will be forthcoming from the recent visit of members of the rivers and harbors and interstate and foreign commerce committees of congress to Columbus, Apalachicola and other cities on the system of rivers.

While the members of the committees were in Pensacola, Fla., last week they were interviewed by a former Columbus citizen, now a resident of Pensacola, and were enthusiastic over the industrial development of Columbus and the manufacturing and commercial possibilities of the city.

A prominent member of the rivers and harbors committee said:

"There is absolutely no limit to the possibilities of Columbus' development. Think of it yourself—with a water power capable of the development of 155,000 horse power, calculate for yourself the limitless possibilities of the future development of Columbus. It was a prodigious revelation to me, and to every member of the committee who had never seen it before. I predict that Columbus will, within a few years, be developed into the south's center in the manufacture of textiles. Columbus deserves and must have government aid in the development of her waterway to the sea."

### TRAFFIC BEING RESUMED.

**All Vegetation in Mississippi Is Re-  
ported Killed.**

Jackson, Miss., March 21.—Traffic was resumed on the Illinois Central between Jackson and New Orleans on Tuesday.

The Yazoo and Mississippi sent trains to New Orleans via Meridian over the Queen and Crescent tracks.

All efforts to get trains through by way of Harrison have been abandoned.

The Gulfport and Ship Island road is tied up, and trains have been annulled.

Traffic will probably be resumed on Wednesday night.

Frost and ice wrought havoc to the early fruit and vegetable crop in Mississippi this morning, and the loss cannot be estimated. Peach and pear trees in full bloom have been blighted, and it is feared the crop is utterly ruined.

Reports from truck farming districts say that all early vegetation has been killed.

### Vessel Is a Total Loss.

Boston, Mass., March 21.—A three-masted schooner was discovered on Boston light ledge below Boston harbor shortly after daylight Tuesday. She was almost entirely submerged, and although the weather was very thick, three men could be seen on board. Her name could not be made out. The store life savers crew went to the vessel's assistance. There was little wind, but the sea carried a heavy swell, following Monday night's gale. The schooner's crew were rescued by the keeper of the Boston light ship and a crew. The vessel was the C. C. Lane, bound from New Haven for Portland, with clay. She is a total loss.

### One Killed in Snowslide.

Creede, Colo., March 21.—A big snow slide came down Mammoth mountain Monday at the Willow Mining company's plant, killing one man, Sam East, and demolishing the blacksmith shop in which he was working. The news was telephoned to Creede and 100 men with shovels were soon at work endeavoring to save the unfortunate man's life, but he had evidently been killed instantly and was found under 6 feet of snow within an hour. The slide was a heavy one, and drove heavy mining timbers 20 feet into the opposite side of the canyon.

### Killed Seven Italians.

Knoxville, Tenn., March 21.—A special to the Sentinel from Bristol, Tenn., says information from Marion, N. C., is to the effect that in a riot between a foreman and foreign laborers on the South and Western railroad construction, the foreman was attacked by Italians. He clubbed seven of the men to death, using a steel crowbar in self defense.

## 1,014 PERSONS ARE KILLED BY EARTHQUAKE

**1400 Houses Destroyed On Is-  
land of Formosa.**

**INJURED NUMBER 695 PERSONS**

**One Half of Kagi Has Been Laid  
Waste—The War Department Issues  
Statement Concerning the Safety of  
Soldiers Stationed in Garrison.**

London, March 21.—A dispatch from Tokyo to the Daily Telegraph says:

"Advices from Taihoku (capital of Formosa), state that by the earthquake on that island, in the prefecture of Kagi, alone 1,400 houses were destroyed, 1,014 persons killed and 695 injured."

The war department has issued the following:

"One half of Kagi has been destroyed. The garrison were marched outside, where they are now camped. All the soldiers are safe. We are sending them to Tainan. Trains between Kagi and Toroku have been stopped."

### Shonts Probably Will Resign.

Washington, March 21.—Reports have been current for some time past to the effect that Mr. Shonts was about to resign from his position as chairman of the isthmian canal commission. It was stated authoritatively at the war department that these reports were without foundation, so far as the officials knew. Mr. Shonts has broken badly in health as the result of overwork, it is said, and his nervous system has suffered particularly. An attack of boils has been followed by grip, and finally Secretary Taft, at the instance of Mr. Shonts' physicians, peremptorily ordered him to take a rest for two weeks at Atlantic City. That was on the 18th instant, and Mr. Shonts accordingly has been stopping at the seaside.

### Snow Two Feet Deep in Wisconsin.

Big Piney, Wis., March 21.—The heaviest snow of this section has just come to an end, having raged continuously since the tenth of March. The snow is piled 7 feet in depth in places and is two feet deep on the level. The stage and mail service have been interfered with. It is feared that there have been heavy losses of sheep in the desert east of here, and it is reported that some flocks have been entirely wiped out. There is no feed accessible, and flockmasters are in despair. Several sheep herders are missing. Many of the ranches in this section are completely snowed in, and some of the houses are entirely covered from sight. The only possible method of travel between ranches is on snow shoes.

### Witte's Resignation Rumored.

St. Petersburg, March 21.—It is rumored in official circles that at a session of the council of the empire Monday, Premier Witte tendered his resignation and suggested that Privy Councillor Kokovsov, former minister of finance, be appointed as his successor. The reason Count Witte gave for his resignation was that he is seriously ill with heart disease, having had an attack yesterday. If his resignation is accepted by Emperor Nicholas, Count Witte intends to leave Russia and have the disease treated.

### Fired Bullet Into Own Breast.

Memphis, Tenn., March 21.—A special to the News-Sentinel from West Point, Miss., says that E. J. Russell of Chicago, distributing agent for the Swift Packing companies, walked into the local hotel, picked up a revolver and asked if the weapon was a good one. He then fired a bullet into his breast, the ball passing through the lungs. There is no hope for his recovery. Russell has relatives in Chicago.

### Two Men Killed.

Dayton, O., March 21.—While operating a snow plow on the Dayton Traction road at Chambersburg, Tuesday morning, Barth Hoover and another man were instantly killed. When running at a lively speed the plow struck a nose that had become fastened to a bridge.

## GEORGIA MAYORS MEET IN JUNE

**The League of Municipalities Will Be  
Largely Attended.**

Macon, Ga., March 21.—Mayor Bridges Smith, secretary of the League of Georgia Municipalities, has announced several of the leading topics which will be discussed at the meeting of Georgia mayors in Augusta, on June 13 and 14, at the annual session of that body.

Mayors who have been assigned to these topics by Mayor R. E. Allen, of Augusta, president of the league, are arranging to present the papers in the most helpful manner possible, and, to make the meeting more beneficial, Mayor Allen has arranged to put the discussion of these subjects in the hands of leading members. As soon as the papers are presented these discussions will follow.

The membership of the league continues to grow, and many of the smaller towns of the state have joined. Before the annual session is held, this body will be made one of the strongest of its kind in the south.

Augusta is arranging for a most pleasant session, and the business affairs will, when disposed of, give place to entertainments of various kinds for the enjoyment of the visit to that city.

### Valdosta Bank Case.

St. Paul, Minn., March 21.—Judge Amidon, of the federal circuit court, has filed an order dismissing the suit of the Merchants' National bank, of Valdosta, Ga., against Lyman D. Baird, of Austin, receiver of the defunct First National bank, of Fairbault. This was an action brought to compel a receiver to list as credits \$7,375.63 in favor of the Georgia bank, the amounts of a number of checks drawn on the Fairbault bank by the Minnesota Lumber company, cashed by the Georgia bank, but refused by the Fairbault on Jan. 5, 1905, after it had passed into the receiver's hands.

### Youth Killed by Companion.

Philadelphia, March 21.—A quarrel over a tencent brass ring here resulted in the killing of McArthur, a 16-year-old boy, by William Johnson, a companion, who is under 14 years of age. They had a dispute over the possession of the ring and began to fight. Before anyone could interfere Johnson took a small revolver from his pocket and shot McArthur. The latter died in a few minutes. Johnson was arrested.

### Anderson Arrives at Frisco.

San Francisco, March 21.—George E. Anderson, who has been acting as consul general of the United States at Amoy, China, arrived on the steamer Coptic on his way to Rio Janeiro, at which place he is to fill the position of consul general for this country. Anderson said that while reports of riots throughout the southern portion of China were in circulation when he left the Orient, nothing had transpired in his district that was worthy of note.

### Killed Wife, Then Suicides.

Memphis, March 21.—Leon Croft, a night watchman aged 30, shot and mortally wounded his wife, Mrs. Lena Croft, aged 25, Monday night at the residence of his brother-in-law, C. E. Murray, in this city, and then committed suicide. The couple have been divorced since last July and Croft had called to see his little daughter when a quarrel arose which resulted in the tragedy. Mrs. Croft died at the city hospital at an early hour Tuesday.

### Alaskan Theater Burned.

Seattle, March 21.—A private dispatch from Juneau, Alaska, reports a destructive fire which destroyed the Louvre theater in that city as follows: "The theater burned Saturday night, John King dead." The Louvre is a two story building of wood and was erected 15 years ago. It cost \$25,000. John King, mentioned in the telegram as being dead, did the fire setting act.

### To Form New Cabinet.

Lisbon, March 21.—Hintz Robiero has been commissioned to form a cabinet. The Portuguese ministry formed on Oct. 19, 1904, under the premiership of J. Luciano de Castro, resigned Dec. 25, 1905. King Charles, accepting the resignations, but requested the ministers to retain their portfolios until the new year.

## MISSISSIPPI SWEEP BY BIG CYCLONE

**Only Meager Details Have Been  
Received.**

**LOSS OF LIFE NOT KNOWN YET**

**Wires Are Down and Communication  
Has Not Been Established to Indi-  
cate the Extent of the Damage to  
Property.**

Mobile, Ala., March 21.—A special from Hattiesburg, Miss., says a cyclone passed over south Mississippi Monday night.

Details are meager. Whether any one was killed or not cannot be learned. The tornado in many respects resembled the one which passed over Meridian a few days ago, and played havoc with that city. Monday afternoon Mr. George M. Kennedy returned to the city from New Augusta and brought the first news of the tornado to Hattiesburg.

Before leaving New Augusta Mr. Kennedy talked with several men who witnessed the tornado; others hearing it for a distance of four or five miles.

From all accounts the tornado originated at a point between Beaumont, on the Mobile, Jackson and Kansas City railroad, and Brooklynn, on the gulf and Ship Island, twenty miles south of this city. The tornado with a funnel formation, sped across the country a distance of 16 miles, demolishing everything in front of it.

It passed through the Newman Lumber company's tract No. 211, crossing the big public road 2 miles below the old John C. Pierce homestead. At this point the tornado seemed very severe and was traveling at the rate of 70 miles an hour. It tore down fences, uprooting trees and destroying all of the timber in its path.

Mr. Kennedy left New Augusta early in the morning, and up to the hour of his departure, few, if any, details of the tornado had been received. He was of the opinion, however, that great damage had been done.

Whether the storm was accompanied by heavy loss of life, he is unable to say, but it was certain the storm had swept the country for the width of a mile or more and at the points from which reports had been received, the country was entirely cleared of timber and everything else in front of the storm.

### Cyclone Floods Rage in Mississippi.

Mobile, Ala., March 21.—Information reaching here from a private source, states that the tracks of the Mobile and Ohio railroad are inundated just north of Shubuta, Miss., and also at Enterprise, Miss., and that the Chickasaw river is rising rapidly. Fears are entertained that the flood will exceed all previous overflows which in such event would probably mean a severance of rail communications for perhaps a month. People living in the lower lands have already left their homes and are seeking safety in the higher places.

### Train Dug from Snowdrift.

Decatur, Ill., March 21.—The Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton passenger train due in from Indianapolis at 4 a. m., fast in a snow drift all Monday and Monday night, was dug out Tuesday. All the 150 passengers had plenty of food supplied by the company, and spent the night in sleeping cars. The total snowfall at Decatur was 14 inches, official measurement. Illinois Central passenger train which left Decatur Monday for Champaign is still in a snow drift.

### Bulletin Issued on Crop.

Washington, March 21.—A bulletin issued Tuesday by the census shows the complete crop of cotton for 1905, counting round bales as half bales, to be 10,697,013, compared with 13,607,310 for 1904, and 10,915,721 for 1903.

### Conference Reaches Agreement.

London, March 21.—According to the Evening News, telegrams were received in London from Algerias Tuesday stating that the Moroccan conference had reached an agreement satisfactory to all parties.